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Among Deserving Girls  
in the South

Ufford



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Cp378-W58E

# Among Deserving Girls in the South

A Glimpse of Thirty-five Years' Work

SHOWING SOMETHING OF WHAT GOD HATH  
WROUGHT AMONG THE SOUTHERN HIGH-  
LANDERS OF NORTH CAROLINA : : : : :

## Story of Faith and Trust



FRANCES ELLINGWOOD UFFORD

1879

1914





# Light on the Pathway



## CHAPTER I

### How I Was Led

**A**T the earnest solicitation of many warm friends and supporters, who have followed my steps for the past thirty-five years with their prayers and contributions, I have consented to attempt to portray in these few modest pages the gracious leading of providence.

With a deep and profound sense of divine guidance, I beg to lift the curtain in review of these hallowed years, to record these following chapters of human events,



JAMES B. WHITE

coassociated with the God of Missions. Behold the wondrous plan of God in laying upon the heart of a poor white man, (Mr. James B. White, near Concord, N. C.,) the burden of prayer for twenty years, in behalf of the poor children of his neighborhood! While he was pleading that teachers might be sent, the writer was asking for permission to enter a larger field of labor,

Having completed eight years in teaching at Bloomfield, N. J., the way opened in 1878, for entering Bethany Institute, a Bible Training School for Christian workers in New York City. Two years previous to this, the writer received the blessed infilling of the Holy Spirit and power for service. Little did we dream, as our willing feet crossed this new threshold of endeavor, what a wonderful opportunity for service awaited us!

We had been at the Institute six months, engaged in city mission work. Other hearts were burdened for the neglected children, a letter being received by the



MRS. S. W. SCOTT

Superintendents of the Institute, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Ruliffson, from their friends, Dr. and Mrs. Dorland, founder of the first School for Colored girls at Concord, N. C., asking if a Bible reader could not be sent to work there. The letter was read to us and the question proposed as to entering this work. We prayed about it. The decision was made to do so, our Father opening the way. We shrank from going alone. Would not God provide a companion? He did provide one—Mrs. S. W. Scott, a widow, who had also been engaged in city mission work in connection with the Institute. She decided to accompany me.

A few friends became interested. They gave us each fifty dollars for expenses. A farewell meeting was held for us, at which Mrs. James Lorimer Graham, then the president of the Woman's Board of Home and Foreign Missions, made a stirring address and offered prayer for us.

### **A Work Born of Prayer**

Thus we went out in the apostolic way, leaving New York on March 2, 1879, for Concord, North Carolina.

We were given a home by Dr. and Mrs. Dorland at Scotia Seminary, referred to above. God was pleased to use us in a gracious outpouring of His Spirit, thirty of the colored girls being converted in two weeks.

At the conclusion of this revival, we received a call from Mr. White, who resided three miles from the Center. He told us how long he had been praying for a school at Rocky Ridge for white girls.

Dr. Dorland had said to me repeatedly, "Miss Ufford, you will have to go out in the country, and start a school for the white children." Now we saw the hand of God guiding us to our work there.

After reaching Concord, we agreed to spend an hour each day in prayer, for guidance, that we might be used of God for His glory.

A log cabin and four acres of land had been laid upon God's altar for the school, by Mr. White and his aged father, being confident, on hearing of our arrival, that we were sent in answer to his prayer. Before seeing us, he canvassed the entire community to ascertain how many would send their children to the Northern ladies. He found the majority would do so. Most earnestly did he plead with us to open the school. We laid the matter before God in prayer. Mrs. Graham in New York approved of the step proposed.

On June 30, 1879, we were driven out to the field three miles from Concord by Mr. White named "Rocky Ridge," and introduced to the log-cabin (see cut), being greeted by twenty children whose ages ranged from five to twenty-two years.

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The school each morning was opened by prayer, Bible lesson and a Gospel hymn.

In three weeks' time, sixty children filled the cabin to overflowing. Then we erected a "brush arbor" to accommodate them. Mrs. Scott's delicate health forbade her remaining longer than two months. She left me the last of August for her home in New York. For eight months longer, the work continued in the cabin, the writer holding the fort alone, though being constantly upheld and guided by our unseen but ever present Lord and Master.



LOG-CABIN

In addition to the teaching of the sixty or more pupils, we conducted a Sunday School at the cabin each Sabbath morning and a prayer-meeting in the evening. The children delighted in singing the Gospel hymns, and reciting Scripture verses at these services.

Invitations were frequently accepted for holding extra services a few miles out from Rocky Ridge. These places were reached by horseback. Eagerly the people watched for our coming, improvising seats in their cabin homes, which were crowded with earnest listeners, as we unfolded to them the Word of God. The cottage meetings held in the neighborhood of the school were greatly blessed of God, resulting in several conversions. Boarding with Mr.



White and family, we were at liberty to visit in the homes of the people, which we did each week. This enabled us to secure a better acquaintance with the families and thereby render them more assistance in every way, for their betterment.

Few of them had but one room; this was shared with the family as we spent a night in their different homes. The children, as well as parents, were terribly addicted to the use of snuff and tobacco.

The writer organized for the school a temperance "Band of Hope." Having found more enjoyment in the learning of Bible verses and Gospel hymns, than in the use of narcotics, the happy children signed the pledge and many of them kept it.

We know of young men and women to-day—pupils of that first school, who have never broken their pledge.

### **A Rare Trophy**

Most of the fathers were intemperate men. One of these had been a drunkard forty years. He induced his six sons to enter the saloons at Concord. There they drank and gambled. We longed to see this poor man of over sixty years reclaimed and saved.

As we looked to God in his behalf and asked him to sign the pledge, the Spirit touched his heart. After reading the pledge at the close of the meeting one Sabbath evening, invitation for signing it being given, we were overjoyed to see this man step forward with five of his drinking companions to sign his name to it. Although his companions failed to keep it, this man kept the pledge inviolate.

Every Sabbath afterward, his nickle was dropped into the collection basket instead of the whiskey till, as heretofore. Through the influence of the Mission he was thoroughly transformed and several years later died a triumphant death. One of his six sons, the most desperate character of all, was afterward converted, united with the church, read the Bible through, and died a happy death. We had been praying for his conversion twenty-five years. God

was pleased to pour out His Spirit upon the school and community that first year. In answer to earnest prayer, a number of the pupils and people were truly converted.

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## CHAPTER II

### Erection of Buildings

**I**N response to appeals made in New York state by my associate Mrs. Scott, through the Northern Presbyterian Board, which had assumed the care of the work, five hundred dollars were secured by her and sent us. The



WHITE HALL

erection of a two-story plain building was begun. The last of April our closing exercises were held in the partially completed house. The joy of the pupils in occupying it, knew no bounds. It was beautifully decorated with evergreens and wild flowers gathered by them most enthusiastically. But the time of supreme delight was during the first closing exercises, when the girls and boys in their best attire, put forth their initial efforts, in recitation, declamation and song, in the presence of so large an assembly of

parents and friends. Addresses were made by Dr. Dorland and Mr. White. I glanced at the face of the latter, which was radiant. His dreams and cherished hopes for years were now realized. A few years later he had the great joy of seeing his two daughters graduate from White Hall Seminary. We gave the school this name in honor of Mr. White, the donor of the first property used. The writer came North in the spring of '80, returning the following autumn, with a Mt. Holyoke graduate—Miss Elizabeth Ainsworth.

We reopened as a boarding and day school. Twelve girls were received as boarders and fifty girls and boys as day pupils. God set His seal upon the work by giving us all the unsaved souls among the twelve boarding pupils of that first year.

Thus, from year to year, His blessing accompanied our efforts. Eternity alone will reveal the glorious results of the work of this first school.

Additional funds were now sent us. A wing forming the letter T was made to the first building. The cabin was no longer needed for the purpose of dining-room and kitchen. It was utilized for the day-school, a larger number of boarding pupils being received. We held mothers' meetings occasionally. The poor women were much interested in the furnishings of our mission home. Never having seen such counterpanes, they were especially attracted to our "white beds," as they termed them. When replying to their queries about the bedroom sets and furniture, that all was given us by friends North, they exclaimed, in wonder, "They didn't give 'em for nothin,' did they?"

Unable to secure sufficient land for the enlargement of the White Hall school, at the expiration of eight years, when forty-two girls were in attendance there, a sufficient teaching force provided, the Presbyterian Board in New York came most providentially into possession of a grand property at Asheville, over one hundred miles distant from Concord. This property was owned by the late Rev. L. M. Pease, founder of the Five Points House of Industry in New York. It was valued at thirty thousand dollars. This

he gladly laid upon God's altar, donating all to the Board (except a life annuity for use of himself and wife) for the first school for Mountaineers in Western North Carolina. The writer having had the eight years' experience at White Hall, the late Mrs. D. Stuart Dodge petitioned the Board for our release from there, to assist in the founding of this one at Asheville, known as the "Home Industrial School."



### HOME INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

During a number of years, the school was ably superintended by Mr. Pease. He and his noble life-companion rendered most valuable services to the Board, being succeeded by Miss Florence Stephenson as principal, who entered the work the first year, 1887. From its inception, the results of this work have been marvelous. Hundreds of poor girls have been received, trained, saved by God's grace, and are now doing grand work in teaching and training others of their own class.

While the writer was at work there, Mr. and Mrs. Pease invited Miss Frances E. Willard and her associate Miss Gordon to visit them. While with us, Miss Willard became deeply interested in the work we were doing. Her visit proved a great inspiration to both teachers and pupils; in fact one of our girls named herself Josie Willard in admiration of her noble character. The career of Miss Willard, like that of Mrs. Garfield, illustrates the wisdom of being educated for the possibilities of life.



## CHAPTER III

### Another Double Providence

**I**T was an unspeakable pleasure to assist in founding the above second institution.

Before leaving the first, however, I received a call to enter Stanly County, sixteen miles from Concord. Rev. Mr. Arrowood, a minister of the Presbyterian church, was appointed by the Presbytery to plant a church at Locust Level.

Before entering the field, he preached for us at White Hall Seminary. After doing so, he wrote, urging me to found a school there adding "Come over into Macedonia and help us." His place was filled by Rev. J. G. Anderson, who, later, preached also in Stanly County. The desire of the writer was to found at Locust a school for boys.

We completed a year at Asheville, then resigned from the Board for a year's rest, appealing to them for the school. Our appeal was not in vain. We were given permission to secure fifteen hundred dollars. While we were presenting the cause and gathering funds, Rev. Mr. Anderson, without knowledge of this, wrote a friend, who was a member of the Women's Board in New York, in regard to planting a school at Locust Level. In a few months I succeeded in raising a sufficient amount for a successful start in the erection of the building. Mr. Anderson assumed the oversight of the work, and a young man of efficiency and honor expended the funds as we sent them on to him. This was in the summer of '89. Long had we desired to attend the Northfield Conference. The way was opened for us to do so at this time.

Earnestly did we look to our heavenly Father, for an opportunity to present there this work of our new venture. Thirty precious dollars were received toward it. We had told a number of friends of the work from the beginning and of this proposed school for boys. On Saturday afternoon, the day before the Conference was to close, we, with a few other mission workers, were asked to speak of our work. At the conclusion of the service a gentleman told us of his interest in the story related, and said that he was

going to ask Mr. Moody to permit us to give it in the public meeting.

Sabbath evening at the auditorium, before the service opened, Mr. Moody arose and said, "If Miss Ufford is in the audience will she please come to the platform." Seated behind him, with the choir, I arose to respond, when, recognizing me, he stated that I was to speak that evening, and would be given ten minutes. Though shrinking from accepting the privilege granted, God's hand in it was seen, and His divine help bestowed. Never before were we able to crowd so much in ten minutes, as we rehearsed the story from its beginning, of His wonderful leading, in the establishment of this first work attempted for the Mountain people of the South. As we closed our remarks, Mr. Moody in his characteristic way, inquired if it was my brother, Rev. E. S. Ufford, who wrote "Throw out the life-line."

In assenting, he replied: "Good! let us have it now—Mr. Sankey you sing the solo and we will all join in the chorus." Thus for the first time, by such an audience, I listened to the singing of my brother's song.

He has assisted us in throwing the line in behalf of this cause of our Master, by securing, from time to time, funds for its needs.



STANLY HALL

Having secured in cash and pledges nearly one thousand dollars, before returning South, in the fall of 1890, with Miss C. F. Glover of Camden, Me., a Mt. Holyoke graduate, as associate, we entered this Macedonian field. The school thus founded was named "Stanly Hall," to designate the county. Twenty boys were received as boarders. Their ages ranged from twelve to twenty-one years. We also had a large day school for both sexes.

Rev. Mr. Anderson, already mentioned, told us that he had preached forty sermons in the county without having one conversion. The school had been in operation but three weeks, when one young man decided for Christ. He did so on his way home from church one Sabbath evening, after listening to a stirring Gospel sermon, by Mr. Anderson. On the afternoon of that day, he received from us a personal note, urging him to make the decision. The influences of both church and school cooperated in winning souls for Christ, many from time to time, being added to the church.

We found that intemperance and immorality, as well as illiteracy were rife in this county. We were told that it contained ninety distilleries.

One man owned a "still," about half a mile from the school. It had ruined hundreds of men. With the aid of a lawyer, we were able to have the school incorporated, which prohibited the sale of intoxicating liquors within a radius of two miles from us. This victory was hailed with joy by our young people—who hitherto had been indifferent toward this great evil in their midst. Now they saw work to do.

For young souls to dwell in view of golden opportunities is at once inspiring. You may call these occasions emergencies, but I call them opportunities. If we live in expectation of them, then it leads to looking for them. And they who look for opportunities will know them when they come.

### **Another Link**

Allow us to revert to the first link in the chain of events which resulted from our visit to Northfield.

We were awaiting the train the day following the close of conference, when a lady who heard us tell the story, asked us how much we needed to complete our Stanly Hall building. Learning that thirty dollars was all we then had, she said she would send us a check for fifty dollars, which she did soon afterward. This good friend proved to be Miss Sarah E. Gilbert of Utica, N. Y.

## CHAPTER IV

### More Vacation Addresses

THE following year while on a visit to Washington, D.C., the writer was invited by the women of the Presbyterian Society to tell of the results of the White Hall School, and Mission. After hearing of what had been accomplished the society at once generously voted to donate the two thousand dollars then in their treasury for the proposed "Laura Sunderland Memorial School." Our first White Hall building had been burned in 1891.



LAURA SUNDERLAND SCHOOL

This school was founded during that year. It was named for the daughter of Dr. Sunderland of Washington, D. C., who was a most consecrated Christian worker



before being called from her earthly labors. The school was located two miles from the first White Hall School, and in full view of the town. The first workers appointed by the Northern Board were Professor and Mrs. Green, of Western New York, and they did the first work in building up the institution. The Northern Board in New York is still in control of this work, and Miss Melissa Montgomery has served as principal for a long term of years. Grand results have been achieved, many girls having graduated from the school with high honors. About thirty acres of land for the site of this school were donated by a Southern friend resident at Concord.

After the destruction of the first school building by fire, the late Mr. A. Parker, of Brooklyn, N. Y., visited the school. The result was the rebuilding of the edifice by this good friend. He erected a two-story building with recitation rooms and dormitories for teachers, also for twelve girls as boarders. He built also, a one-story cottage for use as a dining-room and kitchen. This building was known as Parker Hall, and by means of which, good work was accomplished. For a number of years a day school has been taught at this old first site in this building.

Following the death of this kind donor, and the transference of the property from the Northern to the Southern Board, the former name of White Hall was reassumed. For 25 years, Mr. White conducted the Sabbath School there, and for a number of years a self-supporting day school has been in operation.

Other good friends—the Misses Masters of Dobbs Ferry, N. Y., (who have been in touch with this work in connection with the schools, and since its inception) have proved an untold inspiration and help to us.

Through the young ladies of their school a fine missionary horse was provided us. It came about in this way: The suggestion was made that a fine be imposed for each slang word used by any member. In less than two weeks \$35 were in hand towards the horse; the rest of the amount followed soon after. At the request of the school we named the horse "Dobbs". It has been our pleasure to

visit this famous school from time to time, and speak of the progress of our work. One of the King's Daughter Circles, the "Helpful Ten," has wrought for our schools many years.

Thus as we continued in this glorious cause, its multiplied possibilities dawned on our vision with sublime outlook. And so, what is the watchword of life to the one who seeks for success? The poet states it well:

"I slept, and dreamed that life was Beauty;  
I woke and found that life was Duty."

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## CHAPTER V

### Needy Girls

TO return to the Stanly Hall School at Locust Level. From its first year, God added His blessing. A number the boys, also of the day pupils, were truly converted and confessed Christ as their Saviour. Soon after entering this very needy field, however, my heart was pained in noting the neglect of the poor girls. It was not considered necessary by many of the parents that they should be educated. If either could be sent to school the boys must go. The cotton fields were the girls' domain.

So burdened was I, in seeing the hundreds of girls going down to ruin, for the need of Christian training and education, that I again appealed to the Board for permission to plant at Albemarle, the county seat of Stanly, and sixteen miles distant from Locust Level, a school for girls. At the same time I asked them to appoint a gentleman and his wife to succeed me in taking charge of the Stanly Hall School. (See picture on page 10)

Rev. and Mrs. A. H. Temple of Sparta, Ill., were appointed for the field, entering it in '93.

The Board, however, could see no way open to plant the school at Albemarle, so that I remained with Mr. and Mrs. Temple for that year.

Through another providential occurrence, I secured two consecrated young women to be ready to go to Albe-

marle (if I could obtain a building) as teachers for a day school. This project was accomplished, and they went there, where they taught a successful school one year, while I was finishing my work at Locust Level. One of these was a native of Iowa, an accomplished teacher. The other was from one of the finest families in the South, and one of our estimable girls at the Asheville School.

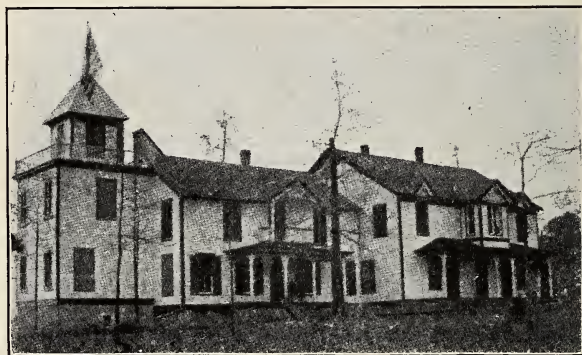
On finishing the course of study there, this young woman went to Chicago and entered Mrs. Myers' Bible Training School. It was there she met her friend from Iowa and they were both engaged for some time, in New York City mission work. My first step taken at Albemarle was the purchase of an unused public schoolhouse with one acre of land, which I bought for \$300. The money came from four friends in the North. One hundred pupils were in attendance at this first day-school at Albemarle.

At the close of the Locust Level School I resigned from the Board, feeling sure that our Father would have me go forward and trust Him for the needed funds for Albemarle. The summer of '93 was spent at the North. Contributions were received, and new friends rallied about me. Returning South, I rented a house, and received three girls as boarders, who were eager to be educated. With an assistant teacher we continued thus teaching the day-school, until the summer of '97 when most providentially the dear Lord provided a superior helper in the person of Miss H. J. Northrup of Minneapolis. She had gone to the Cumberland Mountains at Grassy Cove, Tenn., for her health.

Learning from a friend who was a teacher at the Parker Hall School, near Concord, that we were trying to found a girls' boarding school at Albemarle, she wrote us offering her services which we most gladly accepted. Previous to this, I was obliged to secure the money for the teachers' salaries. Here, then, was one given with a small income, who could donate her services. For seven years she put her time, talents and means into the work, accomplishing great good by her self-denying labors, in teaching and in moulding the lives of our girls.

The principal business men of the town had told me that if I would erect a good building on the beautiful site shown us, they would donate four acres of land for it. At once, on being joined by my new helper, I disclosed to her the desire and plan—to erect on the proposed site or near it, a temporary house. She heartily coincided with me, and the first step taken was the purchase for fifty dollars of two acres of land, at this beautiful, elevated and retired site, a short distance from the town, Miss Northrup making this donation from her private funds. I had been able to secure but four hundred dollars. With this small amount quite a rude structure was cheaply erected. Happy to be done with paying rent, we gladly moved into our own new home in January, 1896. Ten girls were received as boarders, and were taught at the day-schoolhouse with day pupils.

In 1900 a Graded School was provided for the town. I sold my day school building with its improvements, for four hundred and twenty-five dollars.



ALBEMARLE SCHOOL BUILDING

In 1901 we built an addition to the first four-hundred dollar home, applying towards its erection the above amount. Extra funds for it were obtained. While not quite as large as the first house it was constructed with better material. In 1903 a tower addition was made to the new annex.



This afforded a class room, and rooms above for an additional number of girls.

During the summer, a much needed laundry building was erected. This was made possible by a bequest of one thousand dollars left our school by the late Mrs. Mary Minot, of So. Orange, N. J. The first poorly constructed building was improved and remodeled by use of this timely gift. The entire property cost \$2500. Thanks to many kind donors, no debt rested upon it, and for twenty years, has stood as a monument to God's goodness and His never failing promises. It can be seen several miles distant on approaching the town. As we gaze upon it, recalling our toils and prayers of ten years, we can only exclaim, "What hath God wrought?" Is this not true of all humble beginnings? As Sidney Smith used to say: "No man can end with being superior who will not begin with being inferior."

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## CHAPTER VI

### Future Prospects

**I**T was our desire that this work should be established on a sound basis. The Northern Board felt unable to assume the care of it. However, the Southern Presbyterian Church, whose territory of missionary operations included Stanly county, was able to do so. The Mecklenburg Presbytery adopted measures for its further enlargement. Money was raised for three additional acres of land. The first two acres cost \$50. Seven years later we paid \$75. for three additional acres. We then started a subscription paper among our friends at the North and in the South, securing in this way, the first thousand dollars towards the larger brick building, which was erected and completed in 1907. Just here we cannot refrain from mentioning our most loyal and liberal donor to this building—the late Mr. A. C. Trowbridge, of East Orange, N. J. He made it possible for us to enjoy the happiest Thanksgiving Day of our lives. It was by a telegram received from him on that day, stating that he had secured from his

business friends the sum of five hundred dollars for the brick building. He and his brother, Mr. C. A. Trowbridge were among the liberal donors of this amount. During the ten years at Albemarle in which I worked without salary, trusting our God for the supply of the needs of the work, as also for my own, many and blessed have been the direct answers to prayer.

For all these tokens of His love and care, showing that the school was of His own planting, I can never cease praising Him. My favorite verse will fittingly close this chapter—Philippians 4:19, “But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

“What is my being but for thee,—  
 Its sure support, its noblest end?  
 'Tis my delight thy face to see,  
 And serve the cause of such a Friend.”

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## CHAPTER VII

### Some of The Graduates

TO show a few of the results of the efforts directed by different workers in the different schools during the twenty-five years, we append the following incidents:

A girl of eight years entered the White Hall School in '82 soon afterward being converted there.

Very often, after her conversion, did this dear girl approach us in tears, begging us to pray for her poor father. She was the granddaughter of the man who had been a drunkard forty years, when we entered our first field. He is the man whom we previously mentioned, as having been converted after our twenty-five years of united pleading in his behalf. Her mother who died when she was small, was an intelligent and fine looking woman. The girl was very pretty and interesting. By permission of the Board, and the father's consent, I took her to Asheville. At the

school there, she was trained as a Kindergarten teacher. In the mountain schools, under the Northern Board, she



GRADUATES TRAINED FOR SERVICE

assisted for three years, Miss Frances Goodrich of New York, who has done, and is still doing splendid work for the Mountaineers.

This young woman, our interesting girl, was then sent by the Board, to the "Henry Kendall College" at Muskogee, Ind. Ter. There she taught four years with great success. Meeting soon afterward a young lawyer from South Carolina, a mutual attachment was formed, and they were married at the home of the College President. The wedding was an impressive and attractive one, from many points of view. The wedding trip was to Manitou Springs, Col. The husband is a Christian man, and a member of the Presbyterian church. He is also a talented lawyer. This dear girl has frequently written me expressing her appreciation of the help received at "dear old White Hall," and that had it not been for the training received she could not have been and done all which she has for our dear Master. Her father thanked us again and again for the education which we gave her.

Another poor little girl of ten years was also received at the White Hall School. She was an orphan, and homeless. She possessed an uncontrollable temper. Often did she tell the teachers that she might as well be sent away, as she could not overcome it. Patiently we bore with her, pleading for her conversion. God heard, and she was saved. I took her, also, to Asheville. She developed a talent for nursing. Having finished the prescribed course of study at the home industrial and normal schools, Mr. and Mrs. Pease sent her to Orange, N. J. In a few years she graduated as a trained nurse from the training school there. She won splendid success in her profession in that city. One of the best physicians said of her that she was the finest surgical nurse in the state. During one year she earned and saved a thousand dollars.

At one time she was engaged to a young man preparing to go as a missionary to India. This engagement was broken, and she joined the Red Cross Society.

She went to Chickamauga, during the Spanish American war, and did good service. Later she was to have gone with Clara Barton to the front, but was eleven hours too late to join the party. A few months later our heroine went out to Montana to visit a nurse friend who had married there. She met and married the man of her choice. She wrote of her supreme happiness with this man—the dearest she could have found had she searched the world over.

Did space permit, mention could be made of scores of other girls, now filling good positions in different callings, and of others, in homes of their own, some of whose children have graduated from the different schools planted. Of many can it be said to God's eternal praise that this and that one was born again within the walls of the old White Hall Seminary.

The same can be said of the Laura Sunderland School, the daughter of White Hall. Very many girls have been saved and trained, in that grand institution through the tireless energy of its principal Miss Melissa Montgomery and her able assistants.



## A Polished Gem

We must make especial mention of one other poor orphan girl whom we found at Locust Level. She was plowing in the fields for those with whom she lived and was about fifteen years of age. In her poverty and homeless condition, little was it dreamed of the latent powers which dwelt within her, afterwards to be developed and used so mightily for God. She came to us appealing for assistance to enable her to enter the "White Hall School," sixteen miles distant. We fitted her out with a suitable wardrobe and sent her there in 1890. The man who took her told the teachers he had brought a girl from Stanly county. She corrected him by saying, "No, I'm from North Carolina." Never entered the door of White Hall Seminary a girl with greater ambition to learn and to know God than this one. She made remarkable progress in study and in the Christian life. When the building was burned in '91, she was transferred to the Laura Sunderland school. There



HER FIRST SCHOOL AT CONCORD, N. C.

she made still greater progress. On finishing the course of study and graduating from that school, she was able to teach during the vacation, thus assisting herself in that

way. In the fall of '86 she entered the normal and Collegiate Institute at Asheville, graduating several years later. Ten years of excellent instruction in all branches of industry taught, as also the means of culture, proved an untold blessing to this ambitious, consecrated, Christian girl.

Her second school was taught a few miles from Asheville. A part of the time she was assisted by her brother, Jackson Smith, one of our Stanly Hall boys. The school was a success and proved a powerful factor in the transformation of the neighborhood in which it was located. This dear young woman possessed the rare gifts of tact and common sense. She organized a Christian Endeavor Society for the older pupils of her school. Their Christmas exercises were broken up by an intoxicated man, who proved to be a lawyer of much talent. Soon afterward he called upon these two young workers, and apologized for his conduct, which showed the true spirit of Southern chivalry. Expressing his desire to live a different life, and for their prayers and help in doing so, they took their Bibles and read to him some of God's promises. Following the reading of the word with earnest prayer for the fettered man, they had the joy of seeing him accept Christ as his Saviour. He renounced his cups and is now living an exemplary Christian life, being one of their warm supporters.

In 1901 our young heroine entered a new field. She was sent by the Northern Presbyterian Board to Little Pine Creek, Yancy County, near Marshall, N. C. She received a salary of \$300.00. For three years she labored in this mountain cove, most assiduously and marvelous have been the results of her efforts. Through her earnest petitions a gentleman of means erected a new school building and chapel combined, in memory of his wife, and which is known as the "McDivitt Memorial Chapel." Over one hundred children of the mountaineers were gathered in and taught by this consecrated young woman the first year, and with an assistant afterward. So speedy were the results of her work that the attention of school superintendents and others were called to it. When visiting her

school they wondered with amazement at the progress of her pupils and she was able to prepare several of them for entering the schools at Asheville. But the spiritual part of her work was truly more wonderful—in the Sabbath school and in the homes of the people, as she endeared herself to them in cases of sickness and death. One man whipped his wife and sent her away from home. The query was, "What will Miss S—— say?" One good man was so aroused that he went to this wife-beater, and gave him a sound thrashing, took the wife back home and made him promise to respect her in fututre. All awaited the verdict of Miss S——. She gave hearty approval of the course



MISS S——

adopted, and thereafter everything was lovely and peaceful. Thus through her influence and the high esteem in which she was held by the people, the wife-beating ceased. Drinking and gambling also, for not a drop of whiskey was made after she went among them. The feuds which ex-

isted all disappeared, and no pastor in those mountains had more influence than had this young woman.

The reader may be interested to know that this locality of which we are writing was nearly two hundred miles from her birthplace. Imagine the log cabin—a room of 12x12 feet in which this plucky woman first saw the light, and we are led to exclaim, “God hath chosen the weak things and those that are despised—to confound the mighty!” This dear young worker has told me that she never remembered the time when she did not love God and long to be and do something for Him. Truly her longings have been fulfilled.

On page 21 is a cut showing her with her first pupils, taught at Concord, N. C., Page 23 a picture of her in her graduating dress. In contrasting the two, it will be seen what a change can be wrought in the countenance through training and culture.

This enthusiastic student was actuated by a strong sense of love to God and love for souls. She was not content to do anything save her whole duty. When Count von Moltke, field marshal of the German army, who was called the General Grant of the German Empire, had returned from his great military triumphs of Sadowa, there seemed to be no limit to the honors a grateful people bestowed upon him, from the King, down to the humblest peasant, and in reply he said, “I have only done my duty.”

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## CHAPTER VIII

### Stanly County Diamonds In The Rough

WE pass on again to Stanly Hall, Locust Level, to introduce a few other results among the boys received there during four years. We have made mention of the brother of this girl just alluded to. He was one of the first boys to enter “Stanly Hall”, and the first convert to unite with the little “Beulah Presbyterian Church” near the school; a number of years later he was elected as one of its deacons.



After the destruction by fire in '94, of our school building, which we grieve to note, this boy, with others of the twenty students as boarders, was transferred to the Boys' Farm School near Asheville. From there he entered Maryville College, Tennessee, graduating with honors.

Our hero then entered the Presbyterian Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., from which he graduated two years ago. He is now pastor of a Presbyterian church at Marshall, N. C., a mountain field—and doing splendid work. His sister, when hearing the news of her brother having been chosen as pastor's assistant for the Little Pine Creek field, her first one—caused her for very joy to pass two sleepless nights.

Another interesting case worthy of mention, is of a poor orphan boy, seemingly of little promise for the future, but who received lasting impressions at dear old Stanly Hall. Leaving us to seek his fortune, after studying for one year, he acquired some knowledge of carpentry. He later went to Florida. He was given work on one of the large hotels in process of erection. Of his first money earned, he sent us two dollars—one to be used for our temperance work, the other for our Mission Band. His wicked companions tried to induce him to drink with them. On one occasion the bottle was raised to his lips. He remembered his pledge taken at Stanly Hall, and had the courage to desist and say "No." Our brave boy continued to wear his badge and remain firm for the right.

One evening he was moved by hearing the strains of martial music and the drum. Reaching the street, he found it to proceed from the Salvation Army meeting. So interested did he become in it, that he joined the army and went out to Ohio and Pennsylvania where he did good work with this organization. He led many lost souls into the Kingdom. Feeling the need of a more thorough education, our hero entered a college at Austinburg, O. Finishing the course of study there he entered "Grant University" in Tennessee, where he graduated with honors. For a number of years he has been a successful minister

of the Methodist church in a western town and with his faithful wife accomplished great good.

Before closing our present chapter we will mention one other remarkable case. It is that of a poor cruelly treated boy of about twelve years. His father and step-mother belonged to the lowest class of whites.

The boy came to us in the garb represented, in the accompanying picture—wearing his father's cast off coat and pants. He had run away from home. Our hearts were stirred to their depths as he appeared at our door begging for admission and saying: "Please missus, let me stay here with you. I'll work hard and do anything for you if you'll only let me stay." Having as helper a young man who could take pictures, the camera was the first means used in his behalf.



ALLICK AS HE WAS AND IS

The next humane steps taken were the shears, the bathtub and the bonfire. We found fortunately in our store-room, a suit of clothes, also shoes, which proved an exact fit for the boy.

We cannot forget his look of surprise as he gazed into the mirror at the close of the process through which he had passed, and beheld the transformation in his appearance. What a blessed repayment was ours in having thus rescued one of Christ's little ones—of whom it is said, "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones." Matt. 18-10.

The heartless father let us have the boy for ten dollars. After teaching him to read and write well, at our Stanly Hall School, we sent him to the "Home for Little Wanderers" at Boston. In the picture, you now see him as he appeared after six months' training in that institution. He was soon after adopted by a lady in Nova Scotia. In his new home he has become an excellent farmer and a good, useful man.

If given a chance, who can tell but what many of these poor boys may not tread the same path of achievement as numberless others have done in reaching the goal of their worthy ambitions?

To the lad who aspires to rise to some noble calling in life, let him read the lives of poor boys in America and how they became great. Sixty years ago a Scotch boy emigrated with his parents to Pittsburg, and settled there. He was then penniless, but with the few privileges allotted him, he rose to become the famous Andrew Carnegie whom the world can never forget.

The Boys' Farm School, located eight miles from Asheville, was founded by the Northern Presbyterian Board in 1892. It has already accomplished untold good in finding the mountain boys and educating and training them for good citizens. This grand school is destined to reach hundreds more of "the roughest of rough diamonds"—these boys of sturdy Scotch-Irish ancestry, who have but "one inevitable aim—to learn."

Just here, we wish to state that our Southern Presbyterian church is accomplishing splendid work through the number of grand schools in the mountain sections now planted for both girls and boys.

## CHAPTER IX

### The Mustard Seed Increases

**R**ETURNING once more to Locust Level, we will state that one building escaped the fire, and the insurance for full value of the main building was secured by the Board in New York. The two-story house was converted into a day-school building. A few years subsequently, the Board by our advice, transferred the property consisting of sixty-two acres of land, what buildings remained, also seven hundred dollars in cash, to the Southern Mecklenburg Presbytery. Near the site of the first building was erected a cottage for Mr. and Mrs. Temple our successors, also an addition to the school building for the primary department. Mr. Temple having become an ordained minister, was placed in charge of the Beulah Presbyterian church there. He and his faithful companion accomplished a blessed work in that needy field among the children and people for a number of years.

Nearly one hundred boys and girls have been in attendance at the day-school each year. The Presbytery is hoping to found there in the near future an industrial school for boys.



AT OUR ALBEMARLE SCHOOL

we are being able to reach each year more of the class of girls who will be able, after the training received, to do



splendid work as teachers and missionaries among their own class. At our commencement exercises in 1904, two of our girls, one a boarding, the other a day pupil, finished the prescribed course of study, being the first to graduate. The boarding pupil was the brightest girl yet received in our home. Her essay of thirty-eight pages on "The Turks" attested to her talent possessed, also reflecting much credit on her training by Miss Northrup, my co-worker, and who wrought so faithfully for a number of years until her failing health necessitated her retirement from active service. Of her own private income she placed \$500.00 to the credit of the work, \$200.00 of the amount being used in the purchase of the first two acres of land. Later the Presbytery purchased three additional acres.

President Atkinson assumed the charge of the work 8 years ago. The eldest young woman of the graduating class has signified her intention to go to Korea as a missionary, after having completed the Nurses' Training Course at the Presbyterian Hospital, Charlotte, N. C. As was said by the Sainted Spurgeon: "He who wins a soul draws water from the fountain; but he who makes a soul-winner digs a well from which many may drink unto eternal life."

Each succeeding year from the planting of the first school at Albemarle, the county seat of Stanly County, in 1894, wonderful progress has been noted, the greatest and most encouraging being realized at the last commencement exercises in May, 1914. Nine seniors of the College Preparatory Class graduated with honors, also three girls from the Commercial Course. Each of these students did so with credit to the school and their faithful instructors.

Rev. George H. Atkinson, President of the Institute, has wrought faithfully to make of the institution a success, and of the faculty secured by him, none others could have exceeded them, in the faithful and thorough instruction given our students.

The eldest young woman of the College Preparatory class has signified her intention to go as a missionary to Korea, after having completed the Nurses' Training Course at the Presbyterian Hospital, Charlotte, N. C.

In closing this account of our thirty-five years' effort, we wish to mention one more of our dear Master's leadings. In 1912-13, we felt divinely led to start a Perpetual Memorial Scholarship Fund, for the benefit of our poorest girls.

We did so, and feel encouraged with the results thus far secured. We now have \$700.00 toward the Fund, but are anxious to receive more shares and of any amounts, from the friends of our work. Celebrating, this year, our 35th anniversary of the planting of the first school, we shall rejoice in receiving from our friends shares of any amount from \$5.00 to \$500.

The interest only of the Fund will be used in assisting the most needy girls; hence our desire, to see this year, the principle greatly increased.

All donations for this Fund may be sent by post-office orders or by drafts or check to Miss Frances E. Ufford, Dean, Albemarle Normal and Industrial Institute, Albemarle, N. C.



Newest Building at Albemarle Normal and Industrial Institute



Portrait of Miss Ufford's brother, Edward S. Ufford, the author-preacher, with his U. S. life-line which saved 7 sailors on the New England coast. He entered the ministry the same year his sister departed for the Southland, and he has aided her in her work.

# No. 63. The Dawning of the Day.

To my sister, Frances E. Ufford, whose nearly forty years work among the mountaineers of North Carolina has brought the day of hope to many hearts, and to other missionaries in their harvest fields, this song is dedicated.

E. S. U.

Rev. E. S. UFFORD.

1. There's a morn-ing com-ing, There's a day to break, Hill-top and val-ley  
2. There's a tri-umph nearing, There are wrongs to right, Brave-ly ad-van-cing  
3. Vic-to-ry is com-ing, We shall quell the foe, Dark clouds are lift-ing

sum-mon us to wake; Voic-es bid us hast-en,—Let us join the fray,  
in our Leader's might, Rais-ing high our Stand-ard As we pressour way,  
from the vale be-low; Sor-row... and sigh-ing Soon must flee a-way,

CHORUS.

For the dawning of the day. Oh, 'tis com-ing! by and by!  
Wait-ing for coming by

Bright stars are shin-ing, morn-ing is nigh; Let us a-wak-en,  
Je-sus bids us wak-en,

Watch and pray, For the dawn-ing of the day.  
Bids us watch- Wait-ing for







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